

control to prevent any real tariff reduction.

While the progressive element of the Democratic party under Bryan's leadership triumphed at Baltimore, the party itself was divided. The defeated reactionary bosses retired to their several states in full control of their local organizations. On the Democratic ticket in these districts boss-selected candidates will be owned by the high tariff interests. The party is therefore sure to be divided if any serious attempt is made to do away with the plunder which the interests represented by the Democratic bosses now enjoy.

This is exactly what happened after the Democrats carried the election of 1892 upon exactly the same tariff platform as it has this year. This history is almost certain to be repeated unless Governor Wilson is able to dominate the situation. Can it be fairly said that Governor Wilson is a more powerful figure politically than Grover Cleveland or any more likely to dominate a divided party? There is nothing to show that he can. In New Jersey he was unable to hold his party in the legislature to the passage of a single important measure which he favored.

Consider now the Roosevelt progressive party tariff program. We favor the principle of a protective tariff limited to the difference between the cost of production at home and abroad, which is chiefly, if not wholly, in the labor item. Certain interests have been

improperly favored by the present tariff law, and we favor a substantial and immediate downward tariff revision.

The method of tariff-making and of tariff administration should also be changed. Protection should be allowed only on the theory that such protection will serve to keep up the wages and the standard of living of the wage worker in the industry protected, with full regard for the interest of the consumer. No duty should be permitted to stand unless the workers receive their full share of the benefits in the pay envelope.

A permanent commission of non-partisan experts should study scientifically all phases of tariff-making and of tariff effects, with authority to examine closely all correlated subjects, such as what any duty costs the people in the price of living, the wages and conditions of labor and life of the workmen in any industry.

This is a sane, rational and hopeful program as long as the national revenue is to be raised by tariff duties. The almost infinite number of facts to be considered in framing a tariff bill are nowhere accessible, yet are necessary to any intelligent action.

This is the fundamental condition of every great enterprise and yet Governor Wilson publicly sneers at commissions of experts. I know of no utterance of the governor's which is more disquieting than this. All progress in a democracy must depend upon the extent to which the people